

Central African Republic

Protection and assistance for new influx of
refugees from the Democratic Republic of
the Congo



Donor Relations and Resource
Mobilization Service
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Cover photo

UNHCR

Central African Republic

To address the needs of newly replaced refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Central African Republic, UNHCR has revised its 2010 operations plan and budget. These new plans and budget require additional resources of almost USD 6 million above those originally outlined in UNHCR's Global Appeal for 2010-2011.

Central African Republic (CAR) currently hosts about 30,000 new Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers who recently arrived from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In November 2009, the volatile situation in the Equateur Province in DRC, mainly in Dongo, prompted the flight of thousands of people from the Gemena and Dongo area into CAR. The majority of the new arrivals reached Mougoumba and UNHCR has registered almost 17,000 individuals.

Refugees indicate they fled out of fear during the escalation of violence in their home areas. They feared violence, including rape and looting which characterized previous internal conflicts. They sought refuge in CAR pending the stabilization of the situation in DRC. Most of the population originally living in the villages between Gemena and Dongo has left and is now in CAR. The continuous influx of new arrivals in the prefecture of Lobaye

is likely to increase the number of the Congolese refugees.

Furthermore, earlier in June 2009, about 7,500 people, mostly from the Eastern province of DRC arrived in Obo, Mboki and Zémio. They fled insecurity, threats and attacks against their villages, killings, abductions and looting perpetrated by Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels.

The needs

The area where refugees are being received is in the forest. The only available water source is the Oubangui river, creating the risk of malaria and diarrhea. Therefore, water and sanitation, health care, food, education, camp management, registration and profiling are the priority needs as outlined in reports of the inter-agency

assessment missions conducted in the prefectures of Haut Mboumou and Lobaye in November and December 2009.

Although the majority of this population is composed of farmers, fishermen and their families, there are also some civil servants, including agronomists,

teachers, professors, and nurses. About 40 per cent of the population consists of school-aged children who require education. Elderly people, pregnant women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable persons will also require special attention.

Strategy and activities

UNHCR began immediately providing emergency assistance to 30,000 refugees in Lobaye and Haut Mbomou. Simultaneously, the Office negotiated with local authorities to identify land for refugee settlements and carried out technical assessment and site planning. Three potential sites have been identified and camp construction and establishing a camp management structure at Mongoumba (Lobaye) and

Zemio (Haut Mbomou) is ongoing. Refugees will be relocated to the newly constructed camp. Community mobilization and participation in all aspects of the project will be promoted.

UNHCR's programme is coordinated and implemented closely with the Government of CAR (Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés), other UN agencies and NGOs

UNHCR is implementing following activities:

- Maintaining international standards of protection and assistance for all people of concern;
- Registration and profiling of all refugees and asylum-seekers;
- Protection monitoring through regular field visits and a reporting system;
- Provision and distribution of basic domestic items. To the date, 3,200 plastic sheets, 240 tents, 6,600 sleeping mats, 4,400 jerrycans, 1,800 kitchen sets, 2,870 buckets and 9,300 mosquito nets have been distributed;
- Negotiations for land for refugee camps, technical assessments, site planning and development;
- Improvement of conditions and services in the newly constructed refugee camps; two sites in Mougoumba and one site in Zémio (Haut Mbomou);
- Transfer of refugees to the newly constructed camps;
- Construction of new latrines to maintain minimal sanitary conditions and hygiene;
- Provision of seeds, agriculture tools and fishing nets;
- Strengthen partnerships among stakeholders including Government, implementing and operational partners, UN agencies, national and international NGOs to provide effective protection and assistance; and
- Provision of access to services for the host community to support peaceful co-existence.

Key targets for 2010

- 30,000 refugees have access to timely registration, effective protection and legal assistance;
- Field visits undertaken regularly to monitor protection situation;
- All new arrivals are documented and receive basic domestic items;
- Sufficient land granted by the government for refugee settlement and crop production;
- Shelter and other community infrastructure rehabilitated or constructed;
- Community-based approach strengthened in the implementation of the project;
- Maintenance and/or extension of the basic social services facilities, such as water supply system, sanitation, health care and education facilities; and
- All fishermen and farmers resume their usual livelihoods.

2010 UNHCR Budget for Central African Republic (USD)

Rights groups and objectives	Original 2010 budget			Revised 2010 budget		
	Refugee Programme	IDP Projects	TOTAL	Refugee Programme	IDP Projects	TOTAL
	Pillar 1	Pillar 4		Pillar 1	Pillar 4	
Favourable protection environment						
National administrative framework		115,903	115,903		115,903	115,903
Policies towards forced displacement		140,903	140,903		140,903	140,903
Prevention of displacement		160,903	160,903		160,903	160,903
Prevention of statelessness		64,403	64,403		64,403	64,403
Co-operation with partners		95,903	95,903		95,903	95,903
Subtotal	-	578,015	578,015		578,015	578,015
Fair protection processes and documentation						
Registration and profiling	247,056	324,368	571,424	472,956	324,368	797,324
Refugee and stateless definitions	87,897		87,897	168,267		168,267
Fair and efficient status determination	122,457		122,457	234,428		234,428
Individual documentation	169,556		169,556	324,593		324,593
Subtotal	626,965	324,368	951,333	1,200,243	324,368	1,524,611
Security from violence and exploitation						
Impact on host communities	32,172		32,172	32,172		32,172
Effects of armed conflict		100,903	100,903	-	100,903	100,903
Law enforcement	151,764	150,903	302,667	151,764	150,903	302,667
Community security management system	32,172		32,172	32,172		32,172
Gender-based violence	149,672	190,903	340,575	149,672	190,903	340,575
Protection of children	32,172		32,172	32,172		32,172
Freedom of movement	74,132	145,903	220,035	74,132	145,903	220,035
Non-arbitrary detention	198,204		198,204	198,204		198,204
Access to legal remedies		110,903	110,903	-	110,903	110,903
Subtotal	670,287	699,515	1,369,802	670,287	699,515	1,369,802
Basic needs and essential services						
Nutrition	278,566		278,566	688,307		688,307
Shelter/ other infrastructure	469,066	976,919	1,445,984	1,159,012	976,919	2,135,930
Basic domestic and hygiene items	318,077	771,919	1,089,996	785,935	771,919	1,557,854
Primary health care	20,011		20,011	49,446		49,446
HIV/ AIDS	224,369	124,630	348,999	554,392	124,630	679,022
Education	351,577	291,919	643,496	868,710	291,919	1,160,629
Sanitation services	156,066		156,066	385,622		385,622
Services for groups with specific needs	20,011	161,919	181,930	49,446	161,919	211,365
Subtotal	1,837,742	2,327,305	4,165,047	4,540,869	2,327,305	6,868,174
Community participation and self-management						
Participatory assessment and community mobilisation	198,091	152,128	350,219	336,118	152,128	488,246
Community self-management and equal representation	147,551		147,551	250,363		250,363
Camp management and coordination	46,964		46,964	79,688		79,688
Self-reliance and livelihoods	775,596	544,128	1,319,724	1,316,023	544,128	1,860,151
Subtotal	1,168,201	696,257	1,864,458	1,982,191	696,257	2,678,448
Durable solutions						
Durable solutions strategy	70,170		70,170	70,170		70,170
Voluntary return	110,170		110,170	110,170		110,170
Resettlement	517,325		517,325	517,325		517,325
Local integration support	60,170		60,170	60,170		60,170
Subtotal	757,834	-	757,834	757,834	-	757,834
Logistics and operations support						
Supply chain/ logistics	411,769	483,310	895,079	1,027,000	483,310	1,510,310
Programme management, coordination and support	458,008	432,793	890,802	1,142,325	432,793	1,575,119
Subtotal	869,778	916,103	1,785,881	2,169,326	916,103	3,085,429
SUBTOTAL	5,930,808	5,541,561	11,472,369	11,320,751	5,541,561	16,862,312
7 per cent support cost				377,296		377,296
TOTAL	5,930,808	5,541,561	11,472,369	11,698,047	5,541,561	17,239,608

Central African Republic

As of February 2010



UNHCR
 United Nations
 High Commissioner
 for Refugees and
 Returnees
 and Stateless Persons

Coordinating Support Section
 Division of Operational Services

Sources:
 UNHCR, Global Height digital response
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 map do not imply official endorsement
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Legend

Capital
 UNHCR Country Office / National Office / Liaison Office
 UNHCR Sub-Office
 UNHCR Field Unit
 UNHCR In-need Office
 Refugee camp
 Refugee settlement
 Refugee location
 Town of interest
 Main town or village

Elevation
 (Above mean sea level)
 3,250 to 4,000 metres
 2,500 to 3,250 metres
 1,750 to 2,500 metres
 1,000 to 1,750 metres
 750 to 1,000 metres
 500 to 750 metres
 250 to 500 metres
 0 to 250 metres
 Below mean sea level

Other symbols:
 International boundary
 Main road
 Mountain
 Lake

